Private investments in atomic power generation

262. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals before Government to invite investments in atomic power generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of regulatory mechanism being adopted in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) A proposal to amend the Atomic Energy act, 1962 to enable private sector and participation in nuclear power generation in the country is currently under consideration of the Government. However, no final decision has been taken.

(c) Atomic Energy Regulatory Board carried out safety regulation of all nuclear power plants.

Uranium availability in the country

263. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of recent "Indo-US Nuclear Agreement" signed between the two countries, Government propose to initiate a complete 'review' on the present availability of Uranium in the country, required for peaceful use of nuclear power;

(b) if so, the details of the quantity of uranium available in the country, State-wise, particularly in 'ROHIL' in Rajasthan; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to fuel our Nclear Power Plants, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Review of availability of Uranium is done from time to time.

(b) The total identified resources of Uranium in the country as on date are about 1,03,730 tonnes (U_3O_8). The total uranium resources identified